

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 L-02 PRS-01 EUR-10 IO-03 DPW-01

OMB-01 AID-10 RSR-01 PM-03 /081 W

----- 128079

R 050545 Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4118

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 12039

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MOPS, CA, HU, ID, PL, VS

SUBJECT: SITREP FOR JULY 4, 1973

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM CAN THO JULY 4
REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE CAN THO 0532

SUMMARY: ANOTHER RELATIVELY QUIET DAY PASSED IN THE
DELTA JULY 3. THE REGION VII GVN/ JMC CHIEF SPECULATES
ON THE DESIRABILITY OF AN ALL- ASIAN ICCS. THE SITZ
IS DISMANTLED AS A SEPARATE AREA OF OPERATIONS AFTER A
THREE MONTH EXISTENCE. BAC LIEU VC CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN
THEIR LOCAL FORCES. END SUMMARY.

1. SECURITY SITUATION: (A) MR IV REPORTED ONLY 23
ALLEGED VC INCIDENTS JULY 3. THERE WERE THREE GROUND
ATTACKS, 12 ATTACKS BY FIRE, SEVEN HARASSMENTS, AND ONE
AMBUSH. CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE HAD THE MOST ACTIVITY WITH
EIGHT INCIDENTS. BOTH GVN AND VC/ NVA REPORTS CASUALTIES
WERE COMPARATIVELY HIGH FOR SO FEW INCIDENTS. RVNAF
SUFFERED 22 KILLED, 86 WOUNDED, AND EIGHT MISSING. THEY
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LOST 35 INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS. THE VC/ NVA REPORTEDLY LOST 27 MEN KILLED, 16 CAPTURED, ONE CREW SERVED WEAPONS, AND 12 INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS.

(B) A COMPANY- SIZED VC FORCE OVERRAN A PF OUTPOST DURING THE NIGHT OF JULY 2 IN LOI HUNG VILLAGE, LONG PHU DISTRICT, BA XUYEN. THREE PF WERE KILLED, THREE WOUNDED, AND TWO ARE MISSING. THE VC CARRIED OFF 18 M-16' S AND THREE RADIOS. ACCORDING TO AN EYEWITNESS, THE VC WERE LED BY THE VC LOI HUNG VILLAGE SECRETARY. THE ATTACKING FORCE ARRIVED FROM AND LATER RETIRED SAFELY TO DUNG ISLAND, IN THE RIVER BASSAC, ABOUT THREE AND A HALF KILOMETERS FROM THE OUTPOST. THE MISSING PF AND THE FACT THAT THE VC HAD TO BYPASS TWO OTHER OUTPOSTS IN ORDER TO REACH THEIR TARGET SUGGEST PF BETRAYAL MAY HAVE AIDED THE VC.

2. IC

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: thigpegh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON12039
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: CORE6
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730765/aaaajxnz.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <18-Oct-2001 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980310; srp 980310
Subject: SITREP FOR JULY 4, 1973
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, CA, HU, ID, PL, VS
To: JEC PARIS
STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005